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NEWS RELEASE

April 28, 1998

Contact: Susan Gibb, Center for the Rocky Mountain West, (406) 243-7700

'LEANING INTO THE WIND' EDITORS SHARE THEIR BOOK

MISSOULA--

Three women editors, all of whom manage working ranches, will share their collection of writings by women of the West and Midwest during a program Wednesday, May 6, at The University of Montana's Center for the Rocky Mountain West.

Linda Hasselstrom, Nancy Curtis and Gaydell Collier will discuss "Leaning Into the Wind: Women Write From the Heart of the West" starting at 7:30 p.m. in the first-floor meeting room at the Milwaukee Station.

Their volume contains essays, true stories and poems distilled from 550 manuscripts, diaries and letters written by women of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, the Dakotas and Nebraska. Praised by the Denver Post as "205 voices that will knock your heart out," the book was a finalist for both the Colorado Book Award and the Mountains and Plains Booksellers Association Award.

In compiling the collection, which publisher Marc Jaffe calls "the genuine article," the editors looked for authenticity rather than political correctness. They included no fiction because, Hasselstrom says, "too much fiction has warped the world's view of the West."

Westerners all, the three women live and work in Wyoming. Hasselstrom has written eight books of poetry and prose, including "Windbreak" and "Land Circle," which received a Mountains and Plains Booksellers Award. Collier, director of the Crook Country Library System, has published articles in Smithsonian and National Wildlife magazines and co-authored

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several books on horsemanship. Curtis owns and operates the award-winning High Plains Press. In 1993 she was profiled in Life magazine.

A book signing will follow the talk, which is sponsored by UM's Center for the Rocky Mountain West as an addition to its spring lecture series.

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Note: Hasselstrom, Curtis and Collier will be available for interviews from 2 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 6. Call Susan Gibb, 243-7700, to make arrangements.

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